(c) the details of States which are doing excellent work in social forestry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) As per the information made available by the state Government of Assam, total allocation under State Plan and Non-Plan Budgets for social forestry during the year 2004-05 is Rs. 1618.86 lakhs.

(b) Yes, Sir. Social Forestry Wing of the State Forest Department has a monitoring unit which maintains records of survival of plants In addition, ministry of Environment and Forests also undertakes evaluation of survival of plantations carried out under 20 Point Programme through independent agencies/experts in 50 selected districts of the country each year.

(c) States like Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Madhya Pradesh, Mizoram, Nagaland, Orissa, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and Uttaranchal have exceeded the targets of plantations under 20 Point Programme during 2003-04.

Environmental hazard by fly ash and blast furnance slag

1837. SHRIMATI BIMBA RAIKAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state

(a) whether Government are aware that more than 100 million metric tonnes of fly ash from thermal power plants and 10 million tonnes of blast furnace slag from steel plants constitute a major environmental hazard;

(b) if so, to what extent the cement industry is utilising these hazardous wastes to curtail use of conventional limestone and gypsum, and

(c) the measures being taken to attain optimum utilisation of fly ash and furnace slag?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Both the fly ash and blast furnace slag generated by Thermal Power Plants and Steel Plants respectively constitute an environmental concern and problem. About 12 million tonnes of fly ash and 5 million tonnes of blast furnace slag are being used by the cement industry.

(c) Government of India has issued a Notification in September, 1999 which *inter alia* stipulates the use of fly ash by building and road construction agencies. The Notification envisages utilising the entire fly ash generated by the Thermal Power Plants in 9/15 years. A number of Thermal Power Plants have established facilities for collection of storage of dry fly ash wherever required. The Bureau of Indian Standards has revised its specification for use of fly ash in cement from 25% to 35%. Bureau of Indian Standards has also published standards for use of portland blast furnace slag cement which permits use of granulated slag from steel plant up to 75% in the cement manufacture. The Indian Road Congress has published the standards for use of fly ash in the road construction. A number of State Governments have included fly ash bricks/ products/pozzolona cement in their specifications, schedules and tender documents. Fly ash utilisation programme of Department of Science and Technology also facilitates demonstration projects on manufacture of fly ash bricks and back filling of underground coal mines with fly ash. Building Material Technology Promotion Council of Ministry of Urban Development conducts awareness programme on use of fly ash bricks/products in building construction. Central Government is continuously monitoring the utilisation of fly ash and has asked the steel industry to study the back filling of mines with blast furnace slag. The State Governments have also constituted monitoring committee to monitor the use of fly ash by different sectors.

Submission of schemes by Central Pollution Board

†1838. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.